

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.
Gentlemen

Sam. Elliot

London March 17. 1770

Joshua H. Benton Ed.

Oct. 17, 1938

I wrote you very lately informing you that
the Repeal of the Duties on Paper, Glass & Colours
would take Place, whilst that on Tea would be
continued, since when it has been reported that the
last Article would also be freed from the Embargo.
^{much} ⁱⁿ it is clogged. I have sometimes for a Moment
given way to the pleasing Thought that the
whole might yet be accomplished, but when I have
recalled the Expectations daily making to Boston
& Rhode Island, my Hopes were instantly anni-
hilated. I know no other Hold that America
can have upon the Ministry, than what arises
from affecting the Trade of this Country, ^{which} ^{is}
cannot be supposed the less while so many Goods
are continually going out. This has been so
observable that Lord North took Notice of it
the Night of the partial Repeal, & particularly
mentioned Boston & Rhode Island. New York
& Philadelphia have been firm in their Resolution
to discontinue a commercial Intercourse with
this Country, & have by their Steadiness done

themselves great Honour, How can it be accounted
for that Bostonth has taken the Lead in all Colony
Disputes with the Tyrants & Oppressors of America
should be the first to give up a Cause inth they
were the Instruments of bringing the other Provinces
to accede. They have thereby defeated the grand Purpose
th was held up to View, & shamefully disgraced & sacrificed
their Character with the other Colonies. It is beyond
Measure injudicious that while New York has effectual
Laws to prevent Goods being sent thither, that wth
us, they should apparently have been recdth in open
Amm.

Tho upon the Arrival of Hood by whom we
had the Resolves of the 29th January I judged that
Trade might be repeated in consequence, yet I have
not now a Shadow of Hope grounded on the Advice
he brought. I then supposed a final Period was
put to any future Importation, but how miserably
have I been deceived in this Respect; Capt Ackworth
who arrived yesterday, having brought absolute
instead of conditional Orders from two or three different
Persons. And what Influence will News Paper
Intelligence have upon the Minds of the Ministry

when Individuals are seen to act so diametrically
repugnant. Yesterday's Bill of Entry furnished
a sight ^{tho} I did not so soon expect after the last
Accounts, that of a large Quantity of Goods shipped
by one House only to New England. This Entry has
occasioned much Speculation at the Coffee Houses,
& will not fail to be noticed at the West End of the
Town. The Conclusion then must be that our Non
Importation will be considered, as it really is, founded
in idle Talk & News Paper Maranque, & not in Truth
& Reality. I have to the utmost of my Ability endea-
voured to vindicate those, whose Reputation (as Merchants
at least) is very dear to me, but by the Conduct ^{tho}
that has been pursued, I am deprived of all Possibility of
making good my Cause, & I must blush for many
whom I would wish to applaud. —

This being the State of Things I am determined
to return in a short Time, taking ^{tho} in me the Goods
you have ordered in this Situation, ~~As~~ As
to general Orders I hope to leave them in such
Circumstances, as that they may be as well executed
absent, as present, & there really appears no End of
my

Farewell, if I wait to carry out goods as large.

Having in this Letter given way to part of
my feelings on the melancholy Topic of Impru-
dence, I shall rely on your not to communicate it
& commending myself very earnestly to your favourable
Remembrance, remain

Yr. obliged Attendant
I am much disappointed at having no
Letter from you by Ackworth. —

S. Eliot

all the last Bills are accepted except Tho^d. Rich^d
for £50⁰⁰ is noted for Non acceptance

A Distinguished Merchant of Boston & a benefactor of Harvard
College. Some time before his death he presented to the College \$20,000
to found a professorship of Greek Literature